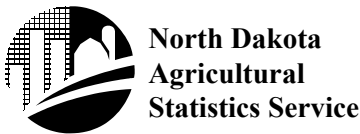


NORTH DAKOTA CROP, LIVESTOCK & WEATHER REPORT



Released: August 25, 2003
For Week Ending: August 24, 2003
ND-CW3403

Cooperating With:
NDSU EXTENSION SERVICE,
FARM SERVICE AGENCY,
ND AG WEATHER NETWORK (NDAWN) and
UND AEROSPACE REGIONAL WEATHER
INFORMATION CENTER

General: Excellent progress was made harvesting small grains last week, according to the North Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service. Scattered rains were reported across much of the state, but more is needed. The high temperatures and low soil moisture supplies continue to stress late season and oilseed crops and pastures in most areas of the state. A statewide average of 6.8 days were suitable for fieldwork.

Even with the reported rains, statewide average topsoil moisture supplies declined slightly last week due to the hot temperatures. Statewide average topsoil moisture supplies on August 24 were rated 31 percent very short, 45 short, 24 adequate and 0 surplus compared to 26 percent very short, 48 short, 26 adequate and 0 surplus the previous week. This compares to 15 percent very short, 35 short, 47 adequate and 3 surplus last year.

Crops: Harvest of most small grains was well ahead of last year and the five-year average (1998-2002). As of August 24, 80 percent of the hard red spring wheat crop was harvested compared to 45 percent last year and the average of 59 percent. Durum wheat was 51 percent harvested compared to 15 percent last year and the average of 27 percent. Ninety-two percent of the barley acres have been harvested compared to 53 percent harvested last year and the average of 67 percent. Durum wheat crop condition ratings as of August 24 were 2 percent very poor, 11 poor, 34 fair, 47 good and 6 excellent.

Twenty-four percent of the corn acreage was dented and beyond stage compared to 20 percent last year and the average of 40 percent. Soybeans were 86 percent fully podded and beyond compared to 85 percent last year and the average of 81 percent. Forty-three percent of the potato vines were killed and beyond compared to 20 percent last year and the average of 26 percent. Twenty-six percent of the flaxseed crop was harvested compared to 12 percent last year and the average of 19 percent. Fifty-five percent of the canola was harvested compared to 24 percent last year and the average of 34 percent. Producers have started chopping corn for silage ahead of average.

Late season and oilseed crops remain under stress due to hot, dry conditions. However, crop condition ratings remain higher than last year. Corn crop conditions were rated 60 percent good to excellent, down from 64 percent good to excellent last week, but up from 57 percent good to excellent last year. Soybean conditions were rated 57 percent good to excellent, down from 66 percent good to excellent last week, but up from 52 percent good to excellent last year. Potatoes were rated 79 percent good to excellent, down from 80 percent good to excellent last week, but up from 68 percent good to excellent last year.

Livestock: Pasture condition ratings declined slightly last week due to the hot, dry conditions. Pasture conditions were rated 19 percent good to excellent, down from 22 percent good to excellent last week, but up from 13 percent good to excellent last year. Stockwater supplies were rated 10 percent very short, 32 short, 57 adequate and 1 surplus compared to 20 percent very short, 22 short, 57 adequate and 1 surplus last year. Second cutting alfalfa was 94 percent complete while other hay harvest was 97 percent complete.

Crop Development Progress ^{1/}
August 24, 2003 with Comparisons

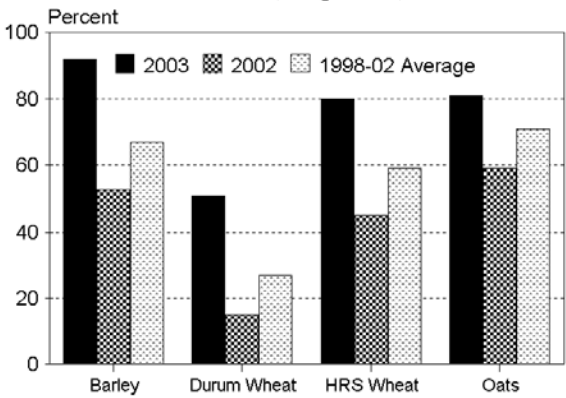
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	1998-02 Avg.
(Percent)				
BARLEY				
Combined	92	70	53	67
DURUM WHEAT				
Turning	97	86	92	90
Combined	51	25	15	27
HRS WHEAT				
Combined	80	51	45	59
OATS				
Combined	81	55	59	71
CANOLA				
Swathed	93	78	80	83
Combined	55	27	24	34
CORN				
Dough	79	62	86	88
Dented	24	10	20	40
Mature	2	1	1	2
CORN FOR SILAGE				
Chopped	9	1	5	2
DRY EDIBLE BEANS				
Podding	99	91	97	99
Fully Podded	82	51	73	81
Lower Leaves Yellowing	51	21	38	54
Mature Leaves Dropping	24	9	10	28
FLAXSEED				
Turning	96	90	89	87
Combined	26	9	12	19
POTATOES				
Vines Killed	43	31	20	26
Dug	1	0	4	2
SOYBEANS				
Fully Podded	86	50	85	81
Lower Leaves Yellowing	17	4	16	18
Mature Leaves Dropping	3	1	1	3
SUNFLOWER				
Ray Flowers Dried/Dropped	48	14	34	34
Bracts Turned Yellow	6	1	6	8

^{1/} Crop development percents represent all acreage in or beyond each stage. NA= Not Available

Crop and Pasture Condition
Week Ending August 24, 2003

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
(Percent)					
Durum Wheat	2	11	34	47	6
Corn, All	4	9	27	51	9
Dry Edible Beans	1	6	30	56	7
Flaxseed	1	5	27	54	13
Potatoes	0	2	19	75	4
Soybeans	2	10	31	50	7
Sugarbeets	0	1	19	71	9
Sunflowers	3	8	31	50	8
Pasture and Range	14	30	37	18	1

Small Grains Combined
North Dakota, August 24, 2003



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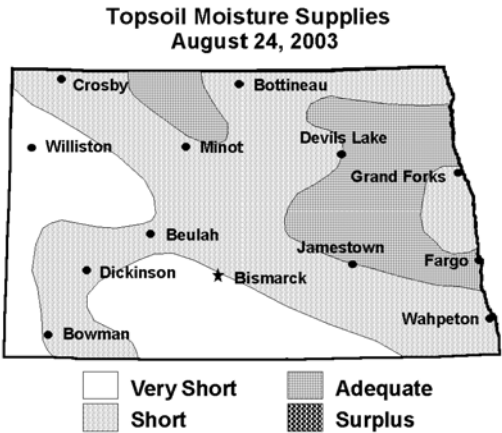
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Soil Moisture: North Dakota, August 24, 2003

Date	V. Short	Short	Adq.	Surplus
(Percent)				
TOPSOIL				
This Week	31	45	24	0
Last Week	26	48	26	0
Last Year	15	35	47	3
98-02 Avg	9	24	61	6
SUBSOIL				
This Week	25	42	32	1
Last Week	21	42	37	0
Last Year	17	34	47	2
98-02 Avg	8	22	64	6



Weather: After a week of very hot and dry weather, North Dakota still saw some hot days, but also had some rainfall. Temperatures this past week once again soared passed the 90s across the region. Jamestown, Streeter, Mandan, Linton, Edgeley and Oakes all reported a weekly high temperature at or over 100 degrees. Low temperatures slipped back into the 50s for most and a few upper 40s were reported as well. Rain did fall across most regions of North Dakota this past week. Grand Forks, Dickinson and Beach all picked up around 0.50 of an inch of rain and Carrington was the wet spot for the week receiving just over 1.50 inches.

Outlook, August 25-31: With August ending and September moving in, it is beginning to feel like fall is near and the weather will follow suit. Expect a big turnaround for temperatures by the end of the week. Temperatures in the 80s and 90s will dominate across the state for Monday and Tuesday, but by Wednesday a system will move in from the north and along with it bring much cooler temperatures and some rain for most. Temperatures by the weekend will be in the 60s to 70s for highs and the lows slipping back into the 40s.

Temperature & Precipitation: Districts and Stations
North Dakota, Week ending August 24, 2003

District Averages	Average Temperature		Seasonal Precipitation Beginning March 29		
	Past Week	Depart Normal ^{1/}	Past Week	Total	Depart Normal ^{1/}
(Degrees F)			(Inches)		
Northwest (1)	72	6	0.00	7.41	-2.90
N. Central (2)	73	7	0.05	7.29	-4.33
Northeast (3)	72	6	0.24	9.45	-1.62
W. Central (4)	72	4	0.01	8.73	-2.43
Central (5)	76	9	0.42	12.00	0.36
E. Central (6)	74	6	0.22	11.04	-1.18
Southwest (7)	73	5	0.38	7.40	-3.34
S. Central (8)	78	9	0.00	9.20	-1.33
Southeast (9)	78	9	0.04	13.50	1.61

^{1/} Normal is the 1961-90 average. NA = Not Available.
Weather data collected from NDAWN stations and compiled by UND
Aerospace Regional Weather Information Center.

Temperature & Precipitation: Districts and Stations
North Dakota, Week ending August 24, 2003

Stations by District	Temperature Past Week		Seasonal Precipitation Beginning March 29		
	High	Low	Past Week	Total	Depart Normal ^{1/}
(Degrees F)			(Inches)		
(1) Bowbells	96	48	0.00	5.32	-4.99
Williston	94	49	0.00	7.59	-1.11
Mohall	95	50	0.01	9.08	-2.13
Minot	97	50	0.00	7.65	-3.37
(2) Baker	94	52	0.16	7.81	-5.16
Bottineau	94	48	0.00	6.39	-5.47
Towner	98	49	0.00	7.67	-2.35
(3) Cando	95	48	0.22	9.26	-1.41
Cavalier	96	50	0.09	9.38	-2.23
Forest River	96	50	0.22	9.23	-2.00
Grand Forks	94	51	0.48	10.98	0.11
Langdon	91	49	0.28	8.79	-2.01
St. Thomas	98	49	0.12	9.06	-2.17
(4) Hazen	99	47	0.02	8.59	-3.14
Turtle Lake	94	50	0.01	10.21	-1.30
Watford City	94	51	0.00	7.39	-2.84
(5) Carrington	96	49	1.56	12.49	0.83
Harvey	97	53	0.38	13.55	1.88
Jamestown	102	55	0.07	13.42	1.95
Robinson	99	54	0.08	10.15	-1.16
Streeter	105	55	0.00	10.39	-1.70
(6) Dazey	96	49	0.28	10.03	-2.54
Fargo	97	58	0.11	10.96	-0.70
Hillsboro	98	48	0.26	12.13	-0.29
(7) Beach	94	54	0.81	9.51	-0.19
Bowman	95	47	0.11	5.92	-4.88
Dickinson	95	49	0.58	7.83	-3.12
Hettinger	98	49	0.01	6.33	-5.15
(8) Mandan	100	52	0.00	8.35	-1.84
Linton	105	54	0.00	10.05	-0.83
(9) Edgeley	106	57	0.10	13.15	1.06
Oakes	102	53	0.01	14.23	2.97
Wyndmere	97	52	0.00	13.12	0.81

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